

*Meigs (J. F.)*

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
ALUMNI SOCIETY  
OF THE  
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

For 1880.

WITH THE  
ANNUAL ADDRESS  
BY  
JOHN FORSYTH MEIGS, M.D.

DELIVERED FEBRUARY 10, 1881.



PHILADELPHIA:  
COLLINS, PRINTER, 705 JAYNE STREET.  
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## ANNUAL MEETING.

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UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
March 14, 1881.

THE Eleventh Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association of the Medical Department of the University was held at 7 P. M. this day.

The President, Dr. John L. Atlee, in the chair.

The minutes of the last annual meeting, with those of the special meeting held February 10, were read and approved.

The report of the Executive Committee was then read by its Chairman, Dr. James H. Hutchinson.

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee would respectfully report that at the first meeting after its appointment it organized by the election of Dr. James H. Hutchinson as its Chairman, and of Dr. Charles T. Hunter as its Vice-Chairman; that it has held regular meetings at the times specified in the Constitution of the Society, and one special meeting on the 12th of March, and that it has had the address of Dr. Traill Green, together with the annual report for last year, printed and distributed as directed by the Society at its meeting last spring. At these meetings many subjects relating to the interests of the Society and of the University were discussed and fully considered. Among the most important of these were the desirability of increasing the membership of the Society and the means by which this end may be attained. Only a small proportion of each graduating class becomes members of the Society, and of those who join many allow their membership to lapse in the course of a few years. This falling off is unquestionably attributable in part to lack of interest; but that it is not wholly ascribable to this feeling is shown by the fact that the present active Treasurer, whose report is herewith respectfully submitted, has been able to reclaim many of these, and the Committee feel sure that under his energetic administration of his office this loss in membership will be largely prevented. The Society should not, however, be content to leave this task entirely to him. Every member has it, probably, in his power to influence at least one alumnus, and those members who occupy positions of teachers are able to exert a much greater influence than this. Every graduate ought to feel an interest in his Alma Mater, and no one should be more jealously watchful of her interests. This feeling, it is believed, exists, and needs but to be properly appealed to, to be roused into action.

It may be demanded by those asked to join the Society: Of what use has it been? What has it accomplished in the eleven years of its existence?

The answers to these questions will be found in previous annual reports. But it will not be out of place to point out here a few of the beneficial results which this organization has been able to bring about. The necessity for an improvement in the curriculum of the Medical Department was freely discussed in this Society long before it was seriously considered in the Faculty or even proposed in the Board of Trustees. So too the project for the establishment of a clinical hospital in connection with the school originated in this Society, and it is largely owing to its exertions that it is to-day a successful one. With the erection of the hospital came the feeling that the course of instruction in other respects was incomplete and defective, and that in order to keep pace with the times it would be necessary to make radical changes in it. It is also owing greatly to the exertions of an active member of the Society that the hospital is to be enlarged by the erection of a wing which it is proposed to devote to the care of chronic and incurable patients. This class is debarred at present from entering, with a single exception, the hospitals of this city, and is obliged in many cases to seek an asylum in the almshouse. And yet how largely may its sufferings be relieved by hospital treatment, and how wide a field for clinical teaching is through its exclusion from a hospital lost to the student, since chronic cases form much the larger number and their diagnosis and treatment often require much more skill than that necessary in acute cases. For fuller details as to the prospects and workings of the hospital the Society is referred to the report of the General Board of Managers.

The alumni of a great school such as this need but to be united in recommending any project to have their wishes favorably considered by the Board of Trustees. Even in the matter of formal representation in the Board, although at present legal difficulties interpose to prevent it, it is not improbable that it may be brought about hereafter. In the mean time this wish may be said to be realized in a modified form. Of the last five gentlemen elected to the Board, two have been active members of this Society since its inception, and have been honored by it with places of trust. Of the remaining three, one has in a similar way been active in the Society of the Alumni of the Department of Arts.

The term just ended is the first for which preliminary examinations were required. Although the requirements of this examination were not severe, it was feared by many, even of its advocates, that it would have the effect of diminishing the number of the class. Fortunately, however, the falling off in number has been very much less than was predicted, and of those who presented themselves for matriculation a large proportion possessed degrees in Arts or other evidences of literary culture. Thus while these preliminary examinations will exclude many students from the privileges of the University who would otherwise have availed themselves of them, it is probable, on the other hand, that they will attract a large share of those who have had the advantage of greater intellectual training and who rightly feel that the greater the requirements of a school, the greater the honor in holding its diploma. The University needs to take one more step to place its Medical Department at the head of American schools of medicine, and it is gratifying to learn that



this will not be long delayed. For the present there are certain technical objections to the lengthening of the term, but these will soon cease to be applicable, and it is confidently expected that this desirable change will be brought about in the course of the next two years.

It is well known to the members of the Society that at the beginning of the college year Dr. Charles J. Stillé resigned the office of Provost—a position he had filled to the great advantage of the University and with great distinction to himself for many years. The Board of Trustees have elected as his successor Dr. William Pepper, a distinguished alumnus of the school and a member of this Society, and indeed one of its founders. The great interest he has always manifested in the cause of medical education, his untiring efforts in the establishment of the hospital, and his earnest endeavors to increase the endowment of the University, all justify the expectation that with him at the helm the interests of the Medical Department will not be permitted to suffer.

The Executive Committee is happy in being able to report that the amount of the Society's indebtedness to the Collins Printing House has been much reduced during the past year. During the past year there has been paid on account of the bill for printing the Catalogue of the Alumni of the Medical Department \$154. This leaves \$68.75 still due—a comparatively insignificant sum when compared with the amount of the original bill, and one which there will be no difficulty in meeting during the current year.

The Alumni Prize for 1880 was divided between Wm. W. Jaggard, M.D., and B. Alexander Randall, M.D., these gentlemen having been found equally worthy of it.

The Committee has heard with regret of the deaths of the following named Alumni of the Medical Department of the University: E. A. Page, M.D., Theodore A. Demme, M.D., C. H. Budd, M.D., J. Burd Peale, M.D., Wm. Darrach, M.D.

Only one of these gentlemen had connected himself with this Society, but they all in different spheres of usefulness fulfilled worthily the duties of their high calling, and have died regretted not only by their immediate friends, but also by the community at large.

The Annual Address was delivered in the Chapel of the University by Dr. John Forsyth Meigs, on the evening of February 10. The night was, unfortunately, stormy, and the attendance was consequently much smaller than it would otherwise have been. The address was, however, attentively listened to, and the Society showed its appreciation of it by ordering it by a unanimous vote to be published. The object of fixing the time for the delivery of the Address in February appears to have been to afford the students an opportunity of hearing. As, however, during that month they are fully occupied in preparing for their examinations, and reluctantly attend any lecture which does not in some way fit them to pass this ordeal, the end in view does not seem likely to be attained. The Executive Committee would therefore recommend to the Society that Sect. 8 of Article III. be so amended that the Annual Address may be delivered earlier in the term, say, some time before the Christmas holidays.

At its first meeting the Executive Committee adopted a resolution expressive of its regret at parting with Dr. Edward Hartshorne, its Chairman since the organization of the Society, who declined a reelection to the Committee in consequence of the press of other duties. But the Committee think that it is eminently fitting that the Society should put on record its sense of his services to it; services the nature and magnitude of which only his companions on the Committee can fully appreciate, and therefore recommends the passage of the following preamble and resolutions:—

*Whereas*, Dr. Edward Hartshorne has since the foundation of the Society been Chairman of its Executive Committee, and has been most untiring in his efforts to promote the objects for which it was instituted: therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Society are due and are hereby tendered to him for his unselfish devotion to its interests and for the unflagging zeal with which for ten years he performed the duties of his office, often very onerous and frequently demanding the sacrifice of much valuable time.

That the Society recognizes in him a firm friend, to whose wise counsel the success of many of its projects is largely owing.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee.

JAMES H. HUTCHINSON,  
*Chairman.*

Dr. Huidekoper, Treasurer, presented his report, as follows:—

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

RUSH S. HUIDEKOPER, *Treasurer, in Account with the Alumni Association,  
Medical Department.*

##### DR.

To balance, previous account	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$59 21
To Dr. Green for extra addresses	.	.	.	.	.	.	10 00
To dues collected since March 13, 1880	.	.	.	.	.	.	393 00
							<hr/>
							\$462 21

##### CR.

March 15, 1880.	By cash for Alumni Prize	.	.	.	.	.	\$100 00
April 7, "	" printing bills	.	.	.	.	.	6 00
June 7, "	" T. K. Collins, Catalogue Account	.	.	.	.	.	90 00
Jan. 10, 1881.	" T. K. Collins, Proceedings and Address	.	.	.	.	.	72 72
April 7, "	" Dr. Evans, Secretary Account	.	.	.	.	.	4 50
Feb. 15, "	" Dr. Wharton, Secretary Account	.	.	.	.	.	1 00
"	" Postage and Envelopes, Treas. Account	.	.	.	.	.	42 00
"	" Collector,	"	"	"	"	"	2 60
							<hr/>
							\$318 82
By balance							143 39
							<hr/>
							\$462 21

Examined and found correct.

C. T. HUNTER,  
JOHN ASHHURST, JR.,  
*Auditing Committee.*



Dr. Evans, Chairman of Committee on Catalogue, reported that \$154 had been paid the "Collins Printing House" on account of bill for printing Catalogue since last report, and that \$68.75 were yet due on the bill.

The amendment of Sect. 8, Article III., as recommended by the Executive Committee, was unanimously adopted. So also were the resolutions of thanks to Dr. Edward Hartshorne for his services as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Dr. Cleemann moved that a committee of ten members of the Society be appointed by the President, whose duty it shall be to coöperate with similar committees from the other Alumni Associations of the University in looking to the erection of an additional building in which the annual exercises of the University may be held. Adopted.

The tellers then reported the following names as the officers of the Society for the ensuing year:—

*President*, JOHN L. ATLEE.

*Vice - Presidents*, } ALFRED STILLÉ, MEREDITH CLYMER, W. S. W.  
RUSCHENBERGER, THOMAS J. GALLAHER.

*Treasurer*, RUSH SHIPPEN HUIDEKOPER.

*Corresponding Secretary*, H. R. WHARTON.

*Recording Secretary*, HORACE Y. EVANS.

*Executive Committee.*

Hiram Corson,	Thomas J. Yarrow,	C. B. Nancrede,
Andrew Nebinger,	R. A. Cleemann,	Louis Starr,
John H. Packard,	James Tyson,	C. M. Seltzer,
James H. Hutchinson,	Wm. Pepper,	Thomas H. Cathcart,
John Ashhurst, Jr.,	S. S. Stryker,	B. Alexander Randall,
Wm. F. Norris,	Wharton Sinkler,	Thomas L. Hazzard.
Samuel Ashhurst,	Charles T. Hunter,	

*Orator*, JOHN CURWEN, of Pa.

The Association then adjourned.

HORACE Y. EVANS,  
*Recording Secretary.*

## NOTICE.

In renewing the annual invitation to their fellow Alumni to join them in the effort to advance the objects of the Society by taking an active part in it as members and by increasing the membership throughout the country, the Executive Committee consider it unnecessary, now, to dwell upon the action of the Society which has established a claim to a material share in the credit for the recent progress of their professional Alma Mater. Their earnest desire is to urge the claims of the Society upon the interest and support of their fellow-graduates—and especially to call the attention of all who have not yet come forward, to the importance of joining its ranks as active members.

To all of those, therefore, who have not yet united with us in this association, we cordially renew our annual invitation to forward their names (under the usual conditions for identification and of good standing) to the Corresponding Secretary of the Society or to the Secretary of the Faculty of the Medical Department of the University.

For the information of the graduates, generally, as to the method of securing membership in the Society, the following extracts from the Constitution are here appended.

### ARTICLE V.—MEMBERS.

SECT. 1. The members shall consist of graduates of the Medical, and of the Dental, Departments of the University of Pennsylvania.

SECT. 2. Any graduate, in good standing, may become a member of this Society by signing the Constitution and paying to the Treasurer the sum of one dollar.

SECT. 3. Honorary members may be selected at any stated meeting of the Society.

SECT. 4. Any member of the Society who has paid his annual assessments for five years, upon paying the sum of five dollars, and any other graduate in good standing, upon paying the sum of ten dollars—each in lieu of the annual dues—may become a life-member of the Society; the funds arising from such payments to be invested for the benefit of the Society.

### ARTICLE VII.—PAYMENTS.

SECT. 1. Every member shall, on signing the Constitution, pay into the hands of the Treasurer the sum of one dollar, which shall be his first annual contribution; and there shall be an annual contribution of one dollar.

SECT. 2. Any member who shall, for two successive years, decline the payment of his annual assessment, shall be *de facto* dropped from the list of members.

## ARTICLE VIII.—OF LOCAL SOCIETIES.

SECT. 1. A Local Society of the Alumni of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania may be instituted in any district (composed of a city, township, county, or group of townships or counties of one or more States) in which there may be at least five resident Alumni.

SECT. 2. The objects of such Local Society shall be those of the Society of the Alumni, and may include the exercises, for professional improvement, of other medical societies.

SECT. 3. The Local Society shall be instituted by the members of the Society of the Alumni residing in the district, who may have agreed upon an organization and a code of regulations for this purpose, a certified copy of such organization and regulations, signed by not less than five of said members, having been accepted and approved by the Executive Committee.

SECT. 4. The Local Society shall be organized by the election of a President and Secretary, and of such other officers as may be considered necessary, the election of the President and Secretary to take place annually, and to be subject to the confirmation of the Executive Committee, the certificate of election having been signed by a quorum of not less than five members of the Society present at the meeting for election.

SECT. 5. The President of every Local Society of the Alumni shall be *ex-officio* Local Vice-President of the Society of the Alumni, and, as such, an *ex-officio* member of the Executive Committee; *provided*, that no Local Vice-President shall become responsible for any action of the Executive Committee, except what may have been agreed upon by said Committee in his presence.

SECT. 6. The Secretary of the Local Society shall keep a list of the names of the officers and members of his Society, and of the Alumni residing in his district; he shall notify the Recording Secretary of the Society of the Alumni of all changes in the list, from any cause; he shall assist the Treasurer of the Society of the Alumni in the collection of dues from the members of the Society on his list; and shall aid his fellow-officers and members in obtaining new members, and in developing an interest in the general objects of the Society among the Alumni of the University and other graduates in medicine within their reach. He shall have charge of the correspondence of his Local Society, and shall submit an annual report to the Executive Committee of the Society of the Alumni at the stated meeting in February of each year. He shall be *ex-officio* a member of said Executive Committee, but shall not be held responsible for the action of this Executive Committee, unless he shall have been present during the taking of such action.



## OFFICERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

<i>Chairman,</i>	JAMES H. HUTCHINSON,
<i>Vice-Chairman,</i>	CHARLES T. HUNTER,
<i>Secretary, ex-officio,</i>	H. R. WHARTON.

## OFFICERS OF LOCAL SOCIETIES,

*Who are Ex-officio Members of the Executive Committee.*

RICHARD R. ROGERS, *President of the Trenton (N. J.) Local Society, and Ex-officio Local Vice-President of the Society of the Alumni.*

CHARLES P. BRITTON, *Secretary and Treasurer of the Trenton (N. J.) Local Society.*

JAMES FOWLER, *of Columbia, Tenn., Secretary of the Local Society.*

BENJAMIN H. RIGGS, *of Selma, Ala., Secretary of the Local Society.*

G. OWEN, *of Mobile, Ala., Secretary of the Local Society.*

H. SMITH, *of New Orleans, La., Secretary of the Local Society.*

## ADDRESS.

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GENTLEMEN :

THE “Worthies of England” is one of the famous books of the older English literature. Its witty author, Dr. Thomas Fuller, who lived in the times of the Commonwealth of England, recites in the opening chapter his reasons for writing the work. He says : “Cato, that great and grave philosopher, did commonly demand, when any new project was propounded unto him, ‘Cui bono?’ what good would ensue in case the same was effected? A question more fit to be asked than facile to be answered in all undertakings, especially in the setting forth of new books, insomuch that they themselves, who complain that there are too many already, help daily to make them more.”

So, gentlemen, I asked myself, when I was requested to address the Alumni of this great school, “Cui bono?” Are there not too many lectures already, and am I to help to make them more? But, reflecting that I was not to come before you of my own proper will, but at the instance of the officers of the Alumni Association, I took heart of grace, and sought for some subject which might not prove too burdensome for your attention. Looking farther into Fuller’s reasons for writing his famous work, I found some which determined me in the selection of my subject. One of his objects, he states, was to preserve the memories of the dead; a second was to present examples to the living; and a third that he might entertain his readers with delight. “To this intent,” he adds, “I have purposely interlarded (not as meat but as condiment) many delightful stories, that so the reader, if he do not arise (which I hope and desire) *religiosior* or *doctior*, with more piety and learning, at least he may depart *jucundior* with more pleasure and lawful delight.”

In the hope, therefore, that you might depart from this address,

with at least some pleasure and lawful delight, I concluded to bring to your attention several historical scenes from the past, in which certain members of our noble art have been principal actors.

In the sixteenth century two of the most famous men of France were so sorely wounded in battle, that their recovery was looked upon as miraculous. One was left for dead on the field of battle with twenty-two wounds, but was afterwards discovered alive by a faithful squire. The second was wounded in the head by a lance, which traversed the right side of the brain, making one of the most extensive and remarkable brain wounds in the annals of medicine. A striking and curious feature of these two remarkable recoveries is the fact that they occurred in a father and son, one of whom, the father, was the founder of the historical family of Guise, he being the first duke of that house. The second became, after his recovery, the greatest of that most distinguished family. He was called *le grand Guise*.

I propose to dwell at some length upon these two cases, as they afford a singular instance of the fact that in families, as in individuals, the inherent force of vitality sometimes far transcends the ordinary vitality of the race. I shall refer to the history of the family, describe the character of the women who bore these two remarkable men, and hope to interest you in these details, as a curious example of the manner in which native vigor of life carries not only individuals but families into the front of the times in which they live.

One of these histories will, moreover, bring before you one of the most eminent men of the medical art—one who made himself famous, not only during his lifetime, but for all time to come. I refer to Ambroise Paré, called the father of French surgery.

I must beg you to listen patiently to some genealogical details of the Guise family, as I have a distinct object in laying them before you. René II., duke-king, as he was called, of Lorraine, and titular King of Sicily, was in danger of being deprived of his inheritance, by Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy. Whilst still only twenty-six years of age, this prince made an alliance with the Swiss, called then "*les dompteurs des grands*," the vanquishers of the great, and, at the battles of Granson and Morat, defeated Charles with all his chivalry. Again, under the walls of Nancy, he attacked Charles's army, defeated it, and slew Charles on the field of battle.

It is this René who figures in one of Scott's great historical



novels—Anne of Geierstein. You, who have read this delightful romance, will recollect the scene where the Earl of Oxford, with his son Arthur, comes upon the field of battle and finds the dead body of Charles, with the bodies of Count Albert of Geierstein and his truculent squire Ital Schreckenwald.

René II. had married for his first wife the Countess of Tancarville, and, after fourteen years of marriage, having had no children by her, repudiated her, and married Phillippe de Gueldres, daughter of the Duke of Gueldres. By this second wife he had twelve children, showing how a man may have no children by one woman, and a large family by another.

On the 20th of October, 1496, at the castle of Joinville, was born the fifth son of this pair, Claude de Lorraine, destined to be the first Duke of Guise. He was nursed, says one of the historians of the family, by his mother “in the love and fear of God.” His father, desiring to establish a branch of his family in France, left to this son all his French estates, his lands and seignories in Normandy, Picardy, Flanders, and Hainault, and had him naturalized in France, by letters patent, in 1506. At the age of ten years he was sent to the court of France, under Louis XII., to be trained as a Frenchman. He received the title of the Count of Guise, and became the first of the famous Dukes of Guise.

This young Count of Guise, of whom it was said, “aussy tost veu, aussy tost pleust,”—so soon as seen, so soon admired,—soon became one of the most brilliant young seigneurs of the court, and was allowed, it is said, to aspire to the hand of Madame Renée, second daughter of the king.

While still very young there occurred an episode in his life, which showed that he possessed, in a remarkable degree, that decision of character which belongs to all men who come to the front of the world's affairs. He accompanied his friend, the Count of Angoulême, the future Francis I., on a visit to the Queen Madame Claude. In order to allow Madame Claude and the count to converse more freely together, he and the young Antoinette de Bourbon entertained each other to one side. From this intimate conversation, which could rarely occur between the men and women of high rank in those days, sprang a sentiment between the two, which induced Claude de Lorraine, only sixteen years of age at the time, to demand, through his friend Angoulême, the hand of Antoinette

in marriage. He seems to have dropped at once his pretensions to the daughter of the king; for, in 1513, at the time of the Fete-Dieu, in Paris, before all the court, he was married to Antoinette. Soon after the marriage, the young Countess of Guise, "true sanctuary of virtue and love," as she is styled by one of the historians of the time, fixed her residence at the castle of Joinville, where her husband had been born. Do we not see in this event of his early life a proof of the powerful nature of the man? After being allowed to aspire to the hand of the king's daughter, he meets, by chance, a lady of lower rank, and, after a single interview, demands her in marriage, and espouses her before the whole court. It was, surely, an example of one of those sudden mutual passions which some cold mortals profess not to believe in, love at first sight.

Two years after this marriage, Francis I., who had become king by the death of Louis XII., marched with an army against the Swiss and Milanese. In this army the largest body of troops consisted of 22,000 lansquenets, under the command of the Duke of Gueldres, uncle to the Count of Guise. With the duke marched the young Count of Guise. Just before the great battle of Marignano, the Duke of Gueldres was obliged to return to his own dominions, to defend them against a sudden invasion. He appointed Guise—then only eighteen years of age—to take his own high command of the lansquenets. At that famous battle, fought on the 13th and 14th September, 1515, the Count of Guise showed all the qualities of an able and intrepid soldier. On the second day, after the Swiss had been beaten back in frequent assaults upon the French, and were retreating, Guise pierced the Swiss battalions, and, rushing after the fugitives, was struck by bullets from two arquebuses in the right arm, and in the thigh, was overthrown by a third, which killed his horse, and fell at last, amongst a heap of slain, with twenty-two wounds. One of his faithful squires, valiant and devoted—Adrian de Nuremburg by name—threw himself on the body, and died under the blows aimed at his master. "Ah!" says Brantôme, one of the historians of the day, "what admirable courage and goodness in both master and squire! Ah! how many have died in such combats as this, unattended by squire, servant, or noble, whose fate, whether living or dead, no one could tell ten years later."

When the battle was over, another of Guise's squires, accompa-

nied by a Scotch officer named James, attached to the household of Francis I., went, by order of the king, to seek his master amongst the dead. They found him with great difficulty, so disfigured was he by his many wounds. James placed him upon his horse, and brought him to the tent of Antoine, Duke of Lorraine. The return of Guise to life seemed hopeless; but, says the historian, the noble prince, thanks to the vigor of his constitution and to the care bestowed upon him, recovered against all expectation, so to speak, miraculously. This case, adds the historian, adorns to this day the stately records of surgery as a veritable prodigy of art, and as marking the epoch when its operations became more scientific and exact.

At the end of a month, Guise, in spite of his sufferings, attended the king upon his solemn entry into Milan. "As captain-general of the lansquenets, with four lieutenants appareled in half tissue of gold and white velvet, carrying his arm in a sling, his thigh supported by one of his squires, he attracted, by his fine presence, the admiration of the army and of the inhabitants."

There is another phase of this medical story of the sixteenth century which I will cite. So soon as Guise recovered consciousness, after being carried from the battle-field, he made a vow that he would, were his life preserved, make a pilgrimage on foot, and armed at all points, from Bar to the bourg of Saint Nicholas and Sainte Barbe, near Nancy. Four days after his return to his castle of Joinville, he performed faithfully this vow, inspired, says Bouillé, by a piety, mingled with superstition, which, in union with the highest courage, formed a trait of the chivalry of the age in which he lived. He, moreover, caused a kneeling statue of himself to be placed near the figure of the saint. And why should he not, it may be added, declare his gratitude for so great a deliverance?

Claude de Lorraine not only recovered from his wounds as described, but lived to be created first Duke of Guise by Francis I., in 1525, ten years after the battle of Marignano, and to become one of the most distinguished nobles and politicians of the country. When Henry II. came to the throne Guise lost some of his popularity at court, while his sons, especially his eldest son Francis, took his place as the favorite of the new court. He retired to his castle of Joinville, and died there April 12, 1550, attended by his duchess, his sons, and his surgeon, Maitre Jean Fis-



seux. He was supposed to have been poisoned, and his body was opened by several physicians, whose names are given: M. Morlette, Claude de Beaune, Maitre Bastien de Bar, a physician of Troyes, and the two physicians-in-ordinary of the household. In the inscription on his tomb it is stated that he died of poison: "Cy gist très haut et très puissant prince Claude de Lorraine, fils du Roy René de Sicile, en son vivant duc de Guise, qui trépassa le 12 Avril l'an 1550, à Joinville, par poison."

It was the eldest son of this noble who made the second extraordinary escape from a deadly wound, to which I have alluded. His recovery was much more remarkable than that of his father, since in his case a lance passed through the right side of the brain, from above the right eye, to the region between the ear and the nucha. If the accounts we have of this wound are correct, and I do not see how they are to be doubted, it constitutes a brain-wound which is well worth our study.

I have already shown that this man had in his father and grandfather two rare examples of vigor of both mind and body. Let us see what kind of a mother he had. His father, you will recollect, had married at the age of sixteen, Antoinette de Bourbon, who was great-aunt to Henry IV., one of the ablest sovereigns that ever sat upon the throne of France. She had a family of eight sons and four daughters, all most distinguished people. Her eldest son, whose accident and escape I am about to recount, became the second Duke of Guise, and was called "le grand Guise." Another son was one of the most powerful and wealthy cardinals of the Roman church of the day; another was Duke of Mayenne, and still another a marquis. Her eldest daughter, the widowed Duchess of Longueville, married James V. of Scotland, and was the mother of the beautiful and unfortunate Mary Stuart.

After the death of her husband, Antoinette, the duchess, sought a retreat in the castle of Joinville, rarely visiting the court, consecrating herself to her duties, and caring chiefly for her children, whom she reared, as the historian says, for their future grandeur and glory. She lived to be eighty-nine years of age, showing clearly that an abundant maternity does not necessarily enfeeble the health, nor shorten the life of woman. She is said to have always been making preparation for death, and to have had her coffin placed in the gallery leading from her apartments to the chapel, whither she went

daily to hear mass. She did this, she said, in order that the spectacle might be to her a perpetual reminder of the time of her own departure. When her descendants to the fourth generation came to offer their caresses, she said: "Embrace not, my little children, this clod of earth, this cinder, destined soon to perish. What am I, indeed, but dry and arid dust?" In a funeral oration upon one of her sons, the Duke of Mayenne, the orator, the Père Jean Gontery, describes her in the following words: "Mirror of perfection, princess of rare virtue, whose reputation in life as a saint has survived to the present day: admirable for her charity, her Christian patience, her entire devotion to the prince, with whom she never ceased to maintain the most touching union."

In order to give you a distinct idea of the extraordinary wound of the eldest son of this remarkable woman, I shall cite two contemporary historians, and then read you the account given by Ambroise Paré himself.

In the year 1544, Henry VIII. of England sent an army to besiege Boulogne. The city surrendered to the English in September of the same year. In the following year, 1545, it was attacked by a French army under Marshal Biez. The young Count d'Aumale, or Prince de Lorraine—both of which titles he bore—hurried to the army, with many other young French nobles, and placed himself in the advanced guard.

The first account of the accident to this young prince, I take from a small duodecimo copy of a life of Gaspard de Coligny, afterwards the famous Admiral Coligny, the great leader of the Huguenot party in France. This little work belongs to the Loganian library of this city. It is in French, of course, in the old type and style, and was printed at Cologne in the year 1691. It is anonymous, is written in a most agreeable and easy style, and has the air and manner of a writer who had been an eye-witness of most that he relates.

It is stated in this work that, at the time of the siege of Boulogne, Coligny and d'Aumale were warm and intimate friends, though it is well known that they became, afterwards, bitter enemies, owing to their different religious faiths, and to their consequently opposing political opinions and interests. At the siege Coligny, twenty-eight years of age, commanded a regiment of infantry, while d'Aumale had attached himself to the cavalry. The writer says that d'Aumale went often into the trenches, where his friend's com-

mand was stationed, both to be with his friend, and to learn the art of war. On one occasion Coligny expected an attack upon his position, and fearing that some accident might happen to Guise, persuaded him to retire. Joinville left the trench; but seeing that a body of English had attacked the French cavalry outside, he joined the defending party, and "received a stroke from a lance in the head, the point of which passed out at the opposite side. Coligny repelled the attack upon the trenches, and escaped unhurt." "Hearing," continues the writer, "of the accident which had befallen his friend, and at the same time that he was mortally wounded, it is impossible to describe his affliction. As he could not leave the trenches, he sent his own surgeon to inquire whether the news was true or not, directing him at the same time, if he found that the prince was still alive, to see him dressed for the first time. The surgeon returned at once, deeming it useless to wait, saying that the necessary operation was impracticable, and that, though the king had sent his own surgeons, all their experience was of no avail, as they could find no means by which to extract the lance-head; how then were they to cure a wound of a kind never before heard of. What made the cure the more impossible, was the fact that they could not even get hold of the lance-head; beside all which, the wound was so close to the eye, that this must be torn out by the violence of the necessary traction; from all which considerations it might be inferred, without fear of mistake, that it would have been better had the count been killed outright."

"All that was said by Coligny's surgeon," the narrative continues, "was true, and Ambroise Paré, the first surgeon of the age, and the most dexterous man of the time in his art, was of the same opinion. Nevertheless, more to please the king who had commanded him to use every expedient on the occasion, than from any hope of success, he determined to make use of a pair of blacksmith's pincers, and demanded of the Prince of Joinville if he would permit him to put his foot upon his face. The Prince, who, with this dreadful wound, still retained all the force of his character, replied: 'Why not? shall I not rather choose great pain to obtain a great good, than refuse to be relieved in the fear of pain that will last but a moment?'" (I may say in parenthesis, that his reply to Paré's question, as given by another writer, was much more laconic and characteristic than this. "*Je consens à tout, travaillez,*"—I consent to anything, go to



work.) "Those about the count wept with compassion to see so accomplished a prince dying in the flower of his youth; and they were yet more moved at beholding with what resignation he submitted to the will of God. So Ambroise Paré, having obtained consent, set himself to work, and such was his address, that he not only withdrew the weapon, but did it without any injury to the eye. The Prince of Joinville could not prevent himself from showing that he was human, by an exclamation which the intense suffering drew from him; but, having cried out—'Ah! my God!' he became quiet, and showed not the least inquietude. All who were present feeling that, had they been in the same condition, they would have been incapable of so much endurance, admired him the more; and, as it is natural for us to pity those we see in affliction, there were none but felt compassion for what had happened to him. Though Ambroise Paré acquired a great reputation by this operation, no one felt hopeful as to the result. Paré himself said that nothing less than a miracle could save the Prince, for he was strongly persuaded that fever would ensue, and this arising, there could be no hope. But fear is the most frequent cause of fever, and the count was without fear; indeed, with no more emotion than usual. Two or three days having passed in this way, Paré began to speak in other terms, and to say that he saw some ground for hope, but forbade any one to mention this before the patient, lest he might prove more sensible to joy than to despair, and either emotion would prove fatal. Paré had no sooner said this, than the whole camp rang with the news: and, while most thought only of lauding Paré for so great a cure, M. de Chastillon (Coligny), felt only the delight of recovering a friend whom he had wept as dead. However, to conclude this matter, in a word, the Prince de Joinville resuscitated, an expression I may well employ on this occasion, for never before was a man so near unto death. But, be this as it may, there were none but looked upon this event as a miracle; and, in order to perpetuate the memory of the accident, the count received the surname of 'le balafré' (the scarred), a term still employed by several historians, to distinguish him from his son, who inherited both his surname and his courage."

I have given you now one of the contemporary accounts of this famous wound. I will cite still another one. It is taken from the *Memoirs of Martin du Bellay, Sieur de Langey*, published at La Rochelle, by Pierre Davantes, 1572. Bellay is said by some

to have been the greatest captain of his age, and was universally acknowledged to be one of the greatest diplomats, so much so, indeed, that the Emperor Charles V. declared that "Langey's pen had fought more against him than all the lances in France." The description of contemporary events by such a man must be regarded as valuable. This work is also an old French edition—a thick duodecimo volume of 1153 pages, in the Loganian Library of this city. Bellay must have been familiar with all the details of d'Aumale's wound, for he states that during the winter following the French siege of Boulogne, he was sent by the king to that neighborhood, where he saw, close to lower Boulogne, a plague of such violence that more than six-twenties (six-vignts) of the soldiers perished in a single night. This plague was so fatal that at last the only means that remained for the burial of the dead was to level a house, in which all had died, upon the bodies. "Indeed," he says, "the houses were but holes in the ground, covered with thatches made of straw and stubble, which might well have been in part the cause of the fatality, considering, moreover, the extreme dampness of the winter. I was, for some time," he adds, "lodged in the chamber of Captain Ville-Franche, which I deemed the healthiest in the fort; yet one night there died in the chamber where I was lying, his brother and two of his sons, who had shown no signs of illness during the day."

Bellay speaks of valliant and active skirmishes about Mont Lambert, on the outside of Boulogne, where the French army was posted. "And, amongst others, Monsieur François de Lorraine, Duc d'Aumale, a young prince of great courage, eldest son of the Duke of Guise, had gone to see the skirmishing; but observing that our people were fighting badly, and on the point of being beaten, seeing, too, a troop of English about to attack on the flank, and feeling sure that several who were near his person would not fail to support him, he, in order to encourage them, charged the English so vigorously that he checked them on the spot: but, not being followed as he had hoped, he received a blow from a lance within the visor of his helmet, which struck him between the nose and eye, and entered about half a foot within the head; for it must be understood that the iron of the spear, which was three-cornered, was not large, and about a palm long. The spear entered the head with the socket, and about two fingers' breadth of the wood, and broke off,

leaving the fragment in the head: but, with all the force of the blow, the count lost neither his stirrups nor his consciousness, a fortunate thing for him; for, had he fallen, no man could have saved him from the hands of the Englishmen-at-arms, who granted no mercy. Being returned to camp, all the surgeons were in great doubt whether the force necessary to remove the fragment from the head would not put said prince to great hazard, he not being able to endure the shock, and being likely to lose his life in their hands; but he bore the pain as patiently as though they had merely plucked away one of the hairs of his head. Notwithstanding all this, having been carried in a litter to Pecquigny, for two or three days his life was despaired of: during which time he arranged all his affairs, and provided for all his servitors. As for me, I believe that God saved his life, and not the medicaments of man, and that he was preserved in order that afterwards the king might have the greater service of him."

I shall cite next the account of the wound, given by the great master himself who tended it, and who received from all the writers of the day, the highest meed of praise for his skill and conduct. Paré has added to his formal works on anatomy, physiology, and wounds, several chapters of varying length, called "*Les Voyages*," or Journeys, in which he describes the events occurring on the occasion of different journeys, made by the orders of the different kings whom he served. In his "*Voyage de Boulogne—1543*," as I found it in Malgaigne's edition of his works, the last paragraph is as follows. I shall quote the passage as literally as I can translate it, in order that you may have not only the meaning, but the very words of this great man, as he wrote them down in old Paris, more than three hundred years since. He writes thus: "What more shall I say? Monseigneur the Duke of Guise, François de Lorraine, was wounded before Boulogne by the stroke of a lance, which, above the right eye, declining towards the nose, entered and passed out at the opposite point, between the nucha and ear, with such force that the iron of the spear, with a portion of the wooden shaft, broke off and remained within, so that it could not be extracted except with great force, and with a pair of blacksmith's pinchers. Notwithstanding, however, all the violence necessary, attended, as it was, with fracture of bone, nerves, veins, arteries, and other parts bruised and torn, the said seigneur, by the grace of God, was cured.



The said seigneur went into battle always with his face uncovered; this was the reason that the lance passed out at the opposite side."

I could give still other accounts of this famous case; but, if the authorities I have just quoted do not convince you of the truth of the asserted facts, I do not believe that additional ones would influence you.

It may seem at first glance difficult to believe that, not only did the patient receive this terrible wound, but that he recovered so completely as to live eighteen years after it, and to become one of the most famous military commanders, one of the greatest politicians, and perhaps the most powerful noble of France. And yet how can we have any doubt about it? The wound was so frightful, that the surgeons who first saw the count declined to touch him, so difficult or impossible did they deem the only operation that offered a ghost of a chance—the removal of the mass of iron and wood which had transfixed the brain. According to one writer, Paré himself, when sent by the king with orders to exhaust his art to save the life of the young hero, despaired of success, and determined on the operation more to obey and please the king, than because he had any hope of rescuing the patient from his almost certain fate. The simple facts of the case, as related by two writers of the time, show that the wound must have been of the gravest kind. We have, moreover, the short but distinct description of the wound from the hand of the surgeon who saved him—the eminent Ambrose Paré. Paré was so eminent in his day, that he was chief surgeon to four successive kings of France, and chief counsellor to one of them. He was so widely known, and so highly considered, that he is mentioned frequently by contemporary writers.

There can be, therefore, it seems to me, no reasonable doubt that, in this extraordinary brain wound, a spear actually passed through the right side of the brain, entering just above the right eye, transfixing the brain, and emerging behind between the nucha and the ear.

The two most singular physiological conditions in the case are the absence of paralysis—the man did not even lose his stirrups, and he rode on horseback to his tent—and the wonderful integrity of the intelligence preserved by the patient. When asked by the surgeon, whether he would suffer the necessary pain and risk to be expected from the extraction of the weapon, and whether he might



plant his foot upon his face, he replied: "Je consens à tout, travaillez." I consent to anything, go to work. And, quite as singular as this, he retained all the coolness and courage of a most indomitable character. He minded the operation no more, says du Bellay, than had the surgeon been simply plucking a hair from his head.

We may understand, perhaps, the nature of the symptoms by reflecting upon the modern doctrines as to the localization of function in different parts of the brain, and particularly as they are laid down by Ferrier. The spear passed first through what is called by Ferrier the *præ-frontal lobe*, a portion of the organ which may be very extensively injured without disturbing either the motor, sensorial, or intellectual faculties. It must have passed then beneath the motor tract of the middle lobe, and so on through the occipital lobe. Of the occipital lobes, Ferrier says, that they may be removed in the monkey from both sides, without any appreciable sensor or motor disturbances. Animals so mutilated, he states, hear, touch, taste, and smell, and retain all their powers of voluntary motion. Speaking of man, he states, that lesion of the occipital lobes are, as a rule, *latent*. And this man lived, wonderful to relate, to retain all his motor, sensorial, and intellectual powers. Even his emotional faculties do not seem to have been shaken or disturbed, since he commanded armies, defended great cities with rare courage and skill, increased the powers of his house, was a principal actor in the dreadful political and religious quarrels of his country, and showed afterwards, when fatally wounded by an assassin, all the singular courage, coolness, and decision of character he had exhibited on the occasion of his famous wound before Boulogne.

The story of his death is so curious and interesting, and so mingled with the medical history of his times, that I will relate it, for the purpose of setting before you another picture of our art.

Eighteen years after his recovery from the wound I have just described, d'Aumale, who had become the second Duke of Guise by the death of his father, was besieging, with a Catholic army, the city of Orleans, held by the Huguenots. On the 18th of February, 1583, he left the camp in front of the city to visit his wife, the Duchess of Guise, who was staying at the castle of Corney, near by. He had left off his cuirass, in order to ride the more lightly. He crossed the river Loiret in a boat, and was approach-

ing the lodgings of the duchess on horseback, at a slow pace, when an assassin fired at him with a pistol from behind a clump of bushes. The charge was directed just above the armor, which the assassin supposed he still wore. Three bullets traversed the body through the shoulder, just beneath the arm. He was transported to the lodgings, where he was received by the duchess and his son, the Prince of Joinville, who was destined to be the third Duke of Guise, and who, from this moment, became an implacable enemy of the Admiral Coligny, who was accused of inciting the assassination in the interests of the Huguenots.

It was supposed at first that the wound was not mortal. The surgeons, Castellan and Vicena, even flattered themselves that they would soon re-establish the wounded man, whose countenance did not change, and whose firmness was not shaken. Very soon, however, he became worse; ardent fever set in, and, as the wound of entrance contracted, it was deemed necessary to enlarge it by an incision, in order to probe it. The duke consented, telling them not to be hindered by any cries that pain might draw from him. They practised, therefore, a large opening in the form of a cross, through which, by probing with the fingers, they discovered an abscess, but could find no foreign body. Linen, in the form of a seton, was introduced; the surface was carefully cleansed, and the wound cicatrized with a probe of heated silver, to absorb the poison. After the operation, the patient felt some relief, though its effect was, in fact, injurious; the fever continued, and the physicians declared there was no hope. After a long conversation with his wife, and also his son, to whom he said, "May God give thee grace, my son, to be a worthy man;" after thanking all his friends and attendants, he dictated, on the morning of the 24th of February, six days after the wound, his will, and made all his arrangements. Mass was said, and he received the last sacraments of his church. As a curious example of how a great man can die, I will add that, after receiving the sacraments, they brought him some food to sustain his fast-growing exhaustion. "Take it away, take it away," he cried; "I have partaken of celestial bread, of the manna of Heaven, by which I feel such consolation that I seem to be already in Paradise." Extreme unction was now administered by the legate of the Pope, the Cardinal of Ferrara, and towards eleven o'clock in the morning, in a last sigh, says Bouillé, escaped from earth, a soul so high, so

firm, so generous, and so moderate, as would in more peaceful times have contributed to the happiness, as much as to the glory of his country."

I had intended, gentlemen, to relate to you two more scenes from this same period of history, in both of which the eminent surgeon, Ambroise Paré, played an important and interesting part. But my time is fast running away, and I shall have to content myself with one of the curious histories I refer to, the connection of Paré with the court and the Huguenot party at the time of the famous massacre of St. Bartholomew.

In 1572, Charles IX., in concert with his mother, Catherine de Medici, and many of the high Catholic nobles of the court, had persuaded, under solemn promises of safety, a number of the most important Huguenot leaders to come to Paris, to discuss the affairs of the kingdom, and to arrange terms of peace between the contending religious factions. Amongst the Huguenots was the famous Admiral Coligny. The most active of the Catholics was Henry, third Duke of Guise, son of Francis, who had been wounded at Boulogne. This Henry of Guise hated Coligny with the deepest malignity, as having had some complicity in the assassination of his father before Orleans. The immediate pretext for the visit to Paris was the marriage of the young King of Navarre, afterwards Henry IV. of France, with the king's sister, Marguerite de Valois. The marriage was solemnized 18th August, 1572. On the next day Coligny paid a visit to the king, Charles IX., who was playing a game of paume with Teligny, the son-in-law of Coligny, and with Guise. Coligny left the palace to return to his lodgings, and as he walked slowly homewards, reading a memoir which had been handed him, he was shot at and wounded by an assassin, supposed to belong to the household of Guise. One ball cut the index finger of the right hand: a second inflicted a large wound near the left elbow. "Coligny," says de Thou, "without the least emotion, pointed out the house from which the shot had come." He sent some officers to inform the king, had his arm bound up, and continued on foot, supported by his attendants, to his lodgings. When some of his suite advised him to take care lest the ball was poisoned, he replied: "It will happen as God wills." The King of Navarre and the Prince of Conde soon went to visit him, and saw his wounds dressed. De Thou says, "Ambroise Paré deeming it necessary to amputate the



finger, as it was already gangrenous, and attempting to do this with badly sharpened scissors, Coligny suffered acute pain : but he uttered no complaint, though the surgeon had to open and close the scissors three times." After the dressing of the left arm, he whispered in the ear of one of those who held his arm, "that he wished a hundred golden crowns (*ecus d'or*) given to Merlin (a Protestant minister about his person), to be distributed to the poor of the church of Paris." "I have often," says de Thou, "heard Paré relate this circumstance in nearly the words I have used."

How curious, gentlemen, thus to read of an operation performed by the greatest surgeon of the time, on one of the most distinguished personages of the nation, and to hear at the distance of three centuries the click of those dull scissors, which had to be opened and shut three times before the surgeon, with his neglected instrument, succeeded in his operation. How curious, too, to read the opinion given by Paré as to the indication demanding the amputation—that the finger was already, a few hours after the wound, in a state of gangrene.

On the same day, the friends of Coligny were anxious to remove him from his lodgings to the Palace of the Louvre for safety, as they, without any certainty of the plot forming against him, heard in the air and felt an indefinite fear and alarm of approaching danger. "But," says de Thou, "the physicians, and especially Mazilles, first physician to the king, were of opinion that, the wound being so recent, the agitation to be expected from the removal might put his life in danger; so it was determined to leave him where he was."

Paré, like Coligny, was a Protestant, and it is one of the curious facts of the time, that the Catholic king, Charles IX., who was largely responsible for the massacre of the Huguenots at the St. Bartholomew's, should have retained him about his person, as his chief surgeon, and should have sent him to the aid of Coligny, who was himself the leader of the Protestants. I have taken some pains to ascertain how Paré was saved from massacre on that deplorable night, when so much of the best blood of France was spilled at the command of the Catholic party.

Perau (*Life of Coligny, Vies des Hommes Illustres de la France*, tome xi. p. 607) states that, on the evening before the massacre, most of Coligny's friends left him, trusting in the assurances of the



court that he was safe. "There remained," he states, "in the hotel only Cornaton and Labonne, two of his gentlemen, Yolet, his squire, Ambroise Paré, the first surgeon to the king, and his ordinary officers and domestics."

Dulaure, in his *History of Paris*, writes that, two nights after Coligny had been wounded, Sunday, August 24th, when the Catholics were celebrating the fête of St. Bartholomew, the bell of that church rang out, at two in the morning, the tocsin which sounded the commencement of that famous and infamous massacre. The Duke of Guise, Henri, third duke, accompanied by his satellites, hastened to the lodgings of Coligny, knocked, and demanded that the door should be opened. One of Coligny's gentlemen descended the staircase, opened the door, and was at once poignarded by Cosseins, an officer of the king's, who had been left in charge of a guard, ostensibly for the protection of the admiral. "One of Coligny's guardians entered the chamber; the celebrated surgeon, Ambroise Paré, who was in the chamber, demanded the cause of the tumult." Nothing more is said by Dulaure as to the mode in which Paré was saved.

But de Thou relates circumstantially, as follows: Hearing the tumult, Coligny prayed with his minister, Merlin. "When he had finished, speaking to those who were about him, that is to say, to his surgeons and some of his people, and regarding them with a tranquil and assured countenance: 'I see plainly,' he said to them, 'that they seek my life. I have never feared death; it is long since I have foreseen it, and I am ready to suffer it patiently. I esteem myself happy to die in entire consciousness, and to die in God, whose grace supports me, by the hope he gives me of eternal life. I have no need of the help of man: save yourselves at once, my friends, lest you be involved in my misfortune; and that your wives, after my death, may not curse me as the cause of your death. I need only the presence of God, to whom I commend my soul, which is soon to leave this body.' Immediately they fled from the room, some to the upper chamber, some to the roof."

Guizot (*History of France*) says that Coligny, awakened by the noise around his lodgings, and by the discharges from the arquebuses in the court, left his bed, put on his robe-de-chambre, and, leaning against the wall, said to his minister, Merlin, who watched by him: "Monsieur Merlin, pray for me; I commit my

soul to the Saviour." One of his gentlemen, Cornaton, entered the chamber. "What means this tumult?" demanded Ambroise Paré, who had remained with the admiral. "Monseigneur," said Cornaton to Coligny, "it is God who calls us."

The only detailed account of the manner in which Paré was saved in that dreadful night, I found in Brantôme's memoirs. Brantôme asserts that the king spoke so variably about the massacre, that it is difficult to determine what he really thought at first. But, being urged by the queen, and persuaded by Marshal Retz, he was led on, and became "more ardent than any, and towards morning placed himself at the window of his chamber, and when he saw any (of the Huguenots) in the Faubourg St. Germain, trying to escape, he took a large hunting arquebuse which he had, and fired numerous shots at them; but in vain, as the weapon did not carry so far. He kept crying continually 'Kill! Kill!' and cared not to save any, except Maître Ambroise Paré, his first surgeon, and the greatest in all Christian countries, and sent to seek him, and had him brought in the evening to his chamber and wardrobe, commanding him not to stir; adding that it was unreasonable that a man who could serve the world should be thus massacred; and did not urge him to change his religion any more than his nurse, whom he loved so much that he refused her nothing: entreating her, however, always to return to the Catholic faith, without otherwise pressing her; which she did after the St. Bartholomew, of which he had great joy, and told it to all the world; but what she did she did more to please him than from real zeal; for, after his death, she still loved her old faith, as I know, since she told me so one day apart: she was a very wise and honest woman."

How strange a picture of the waywardness of human nature, that the king, who, at the age of twenty-four years, at least consented to the massacre of St. Bartholomew, should have had for his surgeon and nurse, to both of whom he seems to have been sincerely attached, members of the very sect which he was aiding to destroy.

With one more sketch of the part played by members of our profession in the distant past, I shall bring this address to a close. I found, a short time since, in Dean Milman's History of St. Paul's Cathedral of London, an account of a curious relic of that mirror of chivalry, Sir Philip Sidney, which is connected with the medical history of his fatal wound at Zutphen.



Mi venere veni, de vita  
periclitor et te cupio — ja  
nec vivis nec mortuus ero ingrat<sup>9</sup>  
plura non. possum sed donec  
oro ut festines vale  
Arne me

Thos Ph Sidney



Dean Milman says: "The poetry of Sidney's life outshines the poetry of his writings. It has all the nobleness of expiring chivalry, without its barbarity. He did more gallant acts than most of Elizabeth's greatest warriors, and spoke bolder words to his haughty mistress than her wisest counsellors. As a poet—a poet must have been great to have shone in the age of Spencer and Shakespeare—he is almost alone in his glory at St. Paul's. We have no poet's corner in which our unrivalled masters of verse repose, or have monuments raised to their honor. If Sidney had never written a verse, his Defence of Poesy might alone have enrolled him in that immortal band. Of all monuments in St. Paul's (it was but a tablet of wood), that of Sir Philip Sidney is the one, the loss of which I most deplore; ought it not to be replaced?" "Any incident," he goes on to say, "in the life or death of Sidney may be held sacred. A small token in his own handwriting, his dying hand, for it was traced after he was mortally wounded, has been discovered in the State Paper Office. It contains a few hasty words addressed to a medical man named Weyer, entreating him to come to his assistance. I have received, by the kindness of my friend, Mr. Froude, a fac-simile of this most remarkable autograph, of which a copy is subjoined."<sup>1</sup>

The writing in this fragment, gentlemen, is uneven and irregular, as though formed by a feeble and uncertain hand. It is in Latin, and runs thus: *Mi Weieri veni veni de vita pereclitor et te cupio Jam nec vivens nec mortuus ero ingratos pluræ non possum sed obnixè oro ut festines vale An Arnheim Tuus Ph. Sidney.* There is not a punctuation in the writing. The translation I take to be as follows: Oh, my Weyer, come, come; I am in danger of my life, and I long for thee. Now, whether living or dead, I will not be ungrateful. I can no more, but I pray thee that thou hastenest—Farewell—From Arnheim—Thine, Philip Sidney—

In Motley's History of the United Netherlands, the story of the battle and of Sidney's death is given in greater detail. "The action," says Motley, "lasted an hour and a half, and again and again the Spanish horsemen wavered and broke before the handful of English, and fell back upon the musketeers. Sir Philip Sidney, in the last charge, rode quite through the enemy's ranks, until he

<sup>1</sup> This fac-simile has been copied for the printed address.

came upon their intrenchments, when a musket ball from the camp struck him upon the thigh, three inches above the knee. Although desperately wounded in a part which should have been protected by the cuishes which he had thrown aside, he was not inclined to leave the field; but his own horse had been shot under him at the beginning of the action, and the one upon which he was now mounted became too restive for him, thus crippled, to control. He turned reluctantly away, and rode a mile and a half back to the intrenchments, suffering extreme pain, for his leg was dreadfully shattered. As he passed along the edge of the battle-field, his attendants brought him a bottle of water to quench his burning thirst. At this moment a wounded English soldier 'who had eaten his last at the same feast,' looked up wistfully in his face, when Sidney instantly handed him the flask, exclaiming, 'Thy necessity is even greater than mine.' He then pledged his dying comrade in a draught, and was soon afterwards met by his uncle. 'Oh! Philip,' cried Leicester in despair, 'I am truly grieved to see thee in this plight.'

Sidney was borne back to the camp, and thence, in a barque, to Arnheim. The best surgeons, says Motley, were immediately in attendance upon him, but he does not mention the name of Weyer. For a time it was hoped that he would recover: but he soon began to fail, and Count Hohenloe, who had himself been badly wounded a few days later, sent his own surgeon, Adrian Van den Spiegel, a man of great skill; but Adrian soon felt the case to be hopeless. Meantime, fever and gangrene attacked Count Hohenloe himself, and those in attendance upon him, fearing for his life, sent for his surgeon. Leicester, the great Earl, the uncle of Sidney, commander of the English army, refused to let Adrian depart, and Hohenloe, very generously acquiescing in the decree, but also requiring the surgeon's personal care, caused himself to be transported to Arnheim.

Sidney, writes Motley, was the first to recognize the symptoms of mortification, which made a fatal termination inevitable. He discoursed with his friends concerning the immortality of the soul, comparing the doctrines of Plato and of the ancient philosophers, whose writings were so familiar to him, with the doctrines of Scripture, and with the dictates of natural religion. He took leave of his friends with perfect calmness, and said to his brother Robert: "Love my memory; cherish my friends. Above all, govern your

will and affections by the will and word of your Creator ; in me beholding the end of this world with all her vanities."

As I began my address with a quotation from the witty Dr. Thomas Fuller, so I shall end with another, which seems specially fitted for the present occasion. In a corollary about the reciprocation of *Alumnus*, at page 109 of the first volume, he says : "The word *Alumnus* is effectually directive of us (as much as any), to the nati- vities of eminent persons. However, we may observe both a passive and active interpretation thereof. I put passive first, because one must be bred before he can breed ; and *Alumnus* signifieth both the nursed child and the nurse ; both him that was educated, and the person or place which gave him his education. . . . The design which we drive on in this observation, and the use which we desire should be made thereof is this : viz., that such who are born in a place may be sensible of their engagement thereunto ; that, if God give them ability and opportunity, they may express their thankful- ness to the same.

Quisquis *Alumnus* erat, gratus *Alumnus* erit.

A thankful man will feed  
The place which did him breed.

And the truth hereof is eminently conspicuous in many persons, but especially in great prelates before, and rich citizens since, the Reformation."







